

TAKING *AMBLYCHILA CYLINDRIFORMIS* SAY BY BARRIER-TYPE PITFALL TRAP (COLEOPTERA: CICINDELIDAE)¹

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ABSTRACT: Two specimens of *Amblychila cylindriformis* Say were taken by barrier pitfall trap at Angostura State Recreation Area, Fall River Co., SD on 15-viii-1979. This indicates that barrier pitfall traps may be useful in capturing this uncommon and unusual tiger beetle.

Amblychila cylindriformis Say is an inch-long, flightless tiger beetle confined to the prairies west of the Missouri River and east of the Rocky Mountains. It is known from localities in western Oklahoma to southwestern South Dakota and westward to northeastern New Mexico and east-central Wyoming.

These beetles are nocturnal, appearing after dusk to search for food, and retiring before dawn. They spend the daylight hours in mammal or self-excavated burrows (Vaurie, 1955).

During the summer of 1979 I had an opportunity to visit Angostura State Recreation Area, 15 miles SW of Hot Springs, Fall River Co., SD, where *Amblychila cylindriformis* is known to occur (Howden, 1970). I arrived at the recreation area early in the afternoon of 14-viii. It was cool (13°C), cloudy and windy. The prospects for collecting *cylindriformis* by flashlight later that evening did not seem good. Therefore, I decided to set out 10 barrier pitfall traps instead of making a visual search.

Each trap consists of a pair of 1 liter plastic cups and a 15 cm x 1 m plexiglass barrier. The cups are buried with the rims at ground level; the barrier spans the distance between the two cups. The traps were placed in small, sandy openings among the prairie vegetation.

I returned to the recreation area the following morning at 0930 hours (15-viii) to check the traps. The weather had gradually worsened overnight for it was now drizzling. As I approached trapline 1 (0.8 km N of Campground 4), I spotted a specimen of *cylindriformis* descending into a large mammal burrow. I quickly grabbed the specimen before it disappeared from sight. The traps in traplines 1, 2, and 3 contained many tenebrionids, and a few carabids but no cicindelids. However, two of the traps in trapline 4 (0.4 km E of Campground 2) contained single specimens

¹Received April 7, 1980.

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of *cylindriformis*. The bottoms of the cups containing the tiger beetles were colored bright pink from digestive fluids.

Despite unfavorable weather conditions, and limited abundance of *cylindriformis* in this area at the extreme northeastern corner of its range, the barrier pitfall trap proved useful in capturing *Amblychila cylindriformis*. Pitfalls may prove to be an efficient and more convenient method of collecting this tiger beetle.

LITERATURE CITED

- Howden, H.F. 1970. First South Dakota Record for *Amblychila cylindriformis*. *Cicindela* 2(3): 8
Vaurie, P. 1955. A review of the Genus *Amblychila* (Coleptera: Cicindelidae). *American Museum Novitates*, #1724.
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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

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16th May, 1980

ITZN 59

The following Opinions have been published recently by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*, Volume 37, part 1, 8th May 1980.

Opinion No.

- 1147 (p. 11) Status, for the purposes of the type fixations, of the remains of Chironomid Larvae (Insecta, Diptera) provided by Thienemann to Kieffer for the description of new species based on the adults reared from those larvae.
1148 (p. 27) Stabilisation of the generic name *Orchelimum* Audinet-Serville, 1838 and the specific name *Orchelimum vulgare* Harris, 1841 (Insecta, Coleoptera) by use of the plenary powers.

The Commission regrets that it cannot supply separates of Opinions.

R.V. Melville, *Secretary*